CALIFORNIA DISTRICT
FOREST SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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NEW "WILDERNESS" AREAS ESTABLISHED

IN CALIFORNIA NATIONAL FORESTS

In order to insure the preservation, in their primitive condition, of typical mountain and forest areas of California, and to guard against their development and exploitation by modernized recreational features, S. B. SHOW, chief of the California District, United States Forest Service, announces the setting aside of fourteen separate tracts of National Forest land, embracing a total of over 1-1/2 million acres, as "wilderness" areas for the use and enjoyment of all the people. These areas will be preserved in a "wild" state in the sense that they will not be developed by road building or opened to any form of permanent recreational occupancy under permit. The grazing of livestock will, however, be permitted, and in years to come, if economic conditions warrant, some timber cutting or water power development may be allowed by the Forest Service.

"The national forests of California contain a portion of the last frontier of the United States," said Mr. Show. "Within their limits exist many areas still in much the same primitive state as when the first waves of settlement extended into the West. They embrace many of the mountain ranges and peaks that in the early days served not only as landmarks to the pioneers, but as spiritual symbols of a new world and a new life. For these reasons, the pioneers and their descendants have regarded these peaks and wild areas with a well nigh religious veneration.

"We are now conquering and subduing these wild areas by highways and other mechanical means of transportation, and by the congregation of great numbers of people who bring with them all the social and mechanical devices of our present-day civilization. In so doing we destroy in large degree the attributes which make these areas unique of their kind and cause them to command the love and veneration of men.

"It is because of these facts, and the growing desire of a large element of our population for pleasures and conditions that nature alone can provide, that the U. S. Forest Service has created special "wilderness" areas, with their well known inherent capacity to recreate physical and mental powers, to give pleasure and inspiration, to advance science and knowledge, and to preserve national characteristics and traditions.

"The newly created wilderness areas in the national forests of California," continued the District Forester, "are located, for the most part, in the higher and more scenic regions of the Sierra Nevada, Coast Range, and mountains of southern California, where the timber resources and fire hazard are limited, and where there is no necessity for the building of roads for forest administrative purposes. They will present an excellent opportunity to all outdoor enthusiasts who wish to rough it in regions remote from automobile travel and conventional camp grounds and resorts, and who desire to enjoy primitive nature without touch of human influence."

The names and locations of the newly created wilderness areas are as follows:

Middle Eel - Yolla Bolla - 200,000 acres around Yolla Bolla Mountain and at the head of Middle Eel River in the California and Trinity National Forests.

Agua Tibia - 27,000 acres on the west end of Palomar Mountain in the Cleveland National Forest.

Desolation Valley - 41,000 acres north of Echo Lake and west of Lake Tahoe in the Eldorado National Forest.

Salmon-Trinity Alps - 130,000 acres at the headwaters of Trinity and Salmon Rivers in the Klamath, Shasta and Trinity National Forests.

South Warners - 75,000 acres around Eagle Peak in the South Warner Mountains of the Modoc National Forest.

Hoover - 23,000 acres west of Mono Lake in the Mono National Forest. Named after Prof. Hoover, formerly superintendent of the Bodie mines.

Dana-Minarettes - 87,000 acres lying between Tioga Pass and the Devil Post Pile National Monument in the Mono and Sierra National Forests.

Murphy Hill - 12,000 acres surrounding Campbell, Morris and Lotts Lakes west of Belden in the Plumas National Forest.

San Gorgonio - 19,000 acres covering the San Bernardino and San Gorgonio range in the San Bernardino National Forest.

Telegraph Peak - 7,500 acres around Telegraph Peak, in the San Bernardino National Forest.

San Jacinto - 22,000 acres covering the high country east of Idyllwild and Keen Camp in the San Bernardino National Forest.

Ventana - 52,000 acres of wild mountain land at the north end of the Monterey Division of the Santa Barbara National Forest.

Emigrant Basin - 98,000 acres on the Stanislaus National Forest lying between Kennedy Meadows and the north boundary of Yosemite National Park.

High Sierra - 700,000 acres along the High Sierra crest in the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests, from Mt. Whitney on the south to the Mammoth Lakes region on the north, a distance of some 75 miles, all of which is wild, rugged mountains, traversed in part by the John Muir trail.

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